WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (IL-05) honored Holocaust Remembrance Day, which began at sundown yesterday and continues until sundown this evening.

"During this Holocaust Remembrance Day, we must never forget what happened during one of the darkest chapters of history," said Rep. Quigley. "The memory does not dissipate with time, not for me, and certainly not for the hundreds of thousands who suffered and lost loved ones during the Holocaust. It is a solemn reminder of the history Jewish people carry each day and why our commitment to the state of Israel is so important."

During a <u>trip to Poland in January</u>, Rep. Quigley, along with Senator Mark Kirk (IL), visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum in Poland, where he laid a wreath in front of the execution wall.



PHOTO: Rep. Quigley (r) and Sen. Kirk (l) lay a wreath at the Wall of Death at Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial (January 2012).

Rep. Quigley's first visit to the Auschwitz-Birkenau Memorial and Museum came when he <u>trave</u> led to Poland in 2010

. Later that year,

the Congressman helped lead efforts to preserve the Holocaust site

through \$15 million in grant funding from the U.S. State Department, which will distribute the funding over a five-year period beginning this year.

Rep. Quigley has been a stalwart supporter of Israel. In 2011, he spoke out against the unilateral Palestinian bid for statehood

and called for direct two-party talks with Israel. He has repeatedly called for increased sanctions

against Iran, specifically urging sanctions again the Central Bank of Iran

. In addition, he spoke from the floor in <a href="mailto:commemoration Israel's 62nd birthday">commemoration Israel's 62nd birthday</a> last year and urged Secretary Clinton to <a href="mailto:oppose U.N.">oppose U.N.</a> action against Israeli settlements

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